UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1994/647
1 June 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH

LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1994 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALL STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OR MEMBERS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, CONTAINING A SPECIAL APPEAL FOR VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS PRIOR TO 16 JUNE 1993

I have the honour to write to you about the financing arrangements for the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).

As you know, prior to 16 June 1993, it was intended that UNFICYP should be financed entirely by voluntary contributions. The funds provided, however, proved insufficient. The General Assembly therefore decided, by resolution 47/236 that, with effect from 16 June 1993, costs of UNFICYP not covered by voluntary contributions should be treated as expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations. In resolution 47/236, the General Assembly also decided to maintain the separate account established prior to 16 June 1993; invited Member States to make voluntary contributions to that account; and requested me to intensify my efforts to seek voluntary contributions towards the costs of the Force.

On 12 November 1993, I therefore addressed a letter to Member States drawing attention to the sums due to troop-contributing Governments in respect of the period when the Force was financed entirely by voluntary contributions, and which remained unpaid. I indicated that on 15 June 1993 the accumulated shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account was $208.5 million, and that, as a result of the shortfall, the United Nations was not in a position to meet the claims of the troop-contributing countries for the period after December 1981. I therefore invited Governments to give serious consideration to making special voluntary financial contributions to the UNFICYP voluntary account for the period prior to 16 June 1993.

I have to report that, since my approach to Member States, the shortfall in the UNFICYP Special Account in respect of mandate periods prior to 16 June 1993 has not been appreciably reduced. The accumulated shortfall now stands at $194 million. It has therefore been possible only to reimburse claims up to June 1982.

By resolution 48/244, the General Assembly requested me to renew my appeal for voluntary contributions to the UNFICYP Special account established prior to 16 June 1993.

Accordingly, I have the honour to renew my invitation to your Government to give serious consideration to making a special voluntary financial contribution towards the UNFICYP voluntary account.

While any contribution would be greatly appreciated, I should like to propose, again, that those Governments whose current assessment is lower than their previous voluntary contribution towards the financing of UNFICYP should consider contributing the difference towards the outstanding balance due to the troop contributors prior to 16 June 1993.

It is my hope that your Government will find it possible to respond generously to this appeal for a voluntary financial contribution. UNFICYP continues to play a vital role in promoting a peaceful political solution to the problem of Cyprus. By making a voluntary financial contribution, your Government would not only be making an important gesture of appreciation for the dedicated service of the Governments which have contributed to UNFICYP in the past; it would also be helping to resolve a difficult financial situation, which has placed an unfair financial burden on the countries which supported UNFICYP at a time when it was financed entirely by voluntary contributions.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI